

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00965 071104Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-05 MCT-01 OPR-02 /065 W

-----126178 071322Z /45

R 070950Z SEP 77

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1221

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0965

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, EG

SUBJECT: COPTIC DISQUIET

REF: A. ALEXANDRIA 0960, B) CAIRO 14757 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN CONVERSATION EVENING OF 6 SEPTEMBER 1977, DPO GIVEN FOL-
LOWING BACKGROUND ON COPTIC ATTITUDES BY MEMBERS OF ONE OF
ALEXANDRIA'S MOST PROMINENT COPTIC FAMILIES.

2. COPTS AS AN ENTITY CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE MUCH MORE AGGRESSIVE
POLITICALLY IN THE FUTURE FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIVE REASONS, THE
MILITANTELY - SOURCE'S CHOICE OF WORDS - OF POPE SHANUDA, THE
MORE PERMISSIVE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE TODAY IN EGYPT AND EVEN THE
FAINT GLIMMER OF POLITICAL LEVERAGE THEY PERCEIVE IN PRESIDENT
CARTER'S EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. FOREMOST AMONG THESE, IN SOURCE'S
OPINION, IS POPE SHANUDA WHO WAS DESCRIBED AS NOT HAVING BEEN
CONDITIONED TO PASSIVITY BY A LIFETIME IN A MONASTERY LIKE HIS
PREDECESSORS BUT IS AN AGGRESSIVE POLITICAL ACTIVIST WHO IS CAPABLE
OF RALLYING THE COPTIC COMMUNITY AROUND HIM.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, THE TIMING OF
SHANUDA'S EFFORTS IS GREATLY FACILITATED BY THE GENUINE ALARM IN
THE COPTIC COMMUNITY OVER THE RIGHT WING MUSLIM RADICALS - TAKFIR,
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THE BROTHERHOOD, ETC. - AS WELL AS LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS SUCH AS
DESCRIBED IN CAIRO REFTEL. TO QUOTE THE SOURCE "WE HAVE BEEN
TAKING THIS STUFF FOR TOO LONG."

4. ALTHOUGH SOURCE WAS NOT SPECIFIC AS TO PRECISE TACTICS COPTIC
LEADERSHIP INTENDS TO EMPLOY, GENERAL IMPRESSION WAS THEY WOULD BE
ALONG LINES OF THOE DESCRIBED IN CAIRO REFTEL, ACTIVE POLITICAL

LOBBYING AND APPEALING TO OUTSIDE SENTIMENTS.

CHASE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELIGIOUS GROUPS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ALEXAN00965
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770323-0470
Format: TEL
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770993/aaaadacm.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 004b034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1371800
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COPTIC DISQUIET
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/004b034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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